

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 4 (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) An alarm system comprising:
a first plurality of ambient condition detectors coupled by a medium to first control circuits;
a ~~second~~ plurality of exit indicating output devices coupled by a second medium to second control circuits; and
a ~~third~~ second plurality of ambient condition detectors, at least some of the detectors are coupled to respective ones of the output devices to disable operation thereof in response to a locally sensed predetermined condition.

6. (Currently amended) A system as in claim 5 where at least some of the output devices each include a disable port and where respective outputs from the at least some of the detectors of the ~~third~~ second plurality are coupled to respective disable ports.

7. (Original) A system as in claim 5 where the first and second control circuits are coupled together.

8. (Original) A system as in claim 7 where the first control circuits provide control signals to the second control circuits.

9. (Original) A system as in claim 5 where the output devices emit at least one of an audible indicator or a visual indicator.

10. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
determining that a hazardous condition is present in a region;
providing spaced apart indicia ~~indicative of~~ along at least one exit path from the region; and
determining if a hazardous condition is present in ~~the~~ a vicinity of a portion of the exit path, and, responsive thereto, terminating the indicia at least in that vicinity of the exit path.
11. (Original) A method as in claim 10 where providing indicia comprises providing at least visual indicia indicative of the exit path.
12. (Original) A method as in claim 10 where determining the hazardous condition comprises determining that a fire is present in the region.
13. (Original) A method as in claim 10 where determining if the hazardous condition is present comprises determining if an indication of fire is present in the vicinity of the portion of the exit.
14. (Original) A method as in claim 10 which includes providing indicating indicia of a plurality of exits from the region.
15. (Original) A method as in claim 14 comprising:
determining for each of a plurality of exits if an indication of fire is present in the vicinity of the portion of the exit, and, responsive thereto, terminating the indicating indicia for the respective exit.

16. (Original) A method as in claim 13 where the determining if an indication of fire is present comprises at least one of sensing airborne indicators of combustion or sensing optical indicators of fire.

17. (Original) A method as in claim 13 where providing indicia comprises at least one of illuminating at least one exit path from the region, or, audibly designating at least one exit path from the region.

18. (Original) A method as in claim 17 where terminating the indicia comprises at least one of terminating illumination of or, terminating audible designation of at least one exit from the region.

19. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
monitoring a region for the presence of a fire condition;
responsive to a fire condition, activating at least one of an audible or a visual fire indicator;

activating a plurality of fire exit indicators;

locally sensing fire indicia, in the vicinity of at least one of the fire exits, but displaced from the fire exit indicators

and determining the presence of fire related indicia sufficient to make the at least one exit unsuitable for use; and

responsive to the determined presence of fire related indicia, ceasing to activate at least selected fire exit indicators associated with the at least one fire exit.

20. (New) A system comprising:

a device that provides at least one output indicative of an outlet from a region, the device having a first housing that carries an alarm signal receiving port and an output disabling control port;

at least one ambient condition detector, the detector having a second housing separate from the first housing, the detector having at least one alarm output indicative of the presence of a predetermined alarm condition, the alarm output is coupled to the control port to disable the device in the presence of the predetermined condition.

21. (New) A system as in claim 20 which includes a plurality of ambient condition detectors each detector having a respective housing separate from the first housing, alarm indicating outputs of members of the plurality are coupled to the control port to disable the device in the presence of an alarm indicated by at least one member of the plurality.

22. (New) A distributed control system comprising:
a source of alarm indicating signals;
a plurality of egress indicating output modules, the modules configurable to emit outputs to define an egress path from a region;
a plurality of ambient condition detectors, some of the detectors are coupled to at least a first output module, others are coupled to at least a second output module, where one or more alarm indicating outputs from the some detectors suppress the output from the first module and where one or more alarm indicating outputs from the others suppress the output from the second module.

23. (New) A system as in claim 22 where each of the modules is carried in a respective housing and where the detectors are carried in different respective housings.

24. (New) A system as in claim 23 where outputs from the some of the detectors are coupled to the first output module via a common medium.